

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CONNIE
DELANEY

HON. SCOTT MCINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to pay tribute to the life and memory of Connie Delaney, who recently passed away at the age of eighty. I knew Connie and her family very well, and she was a devoted mother, a dear friend, and a beloved member of her Glenwood Springs, Colorado community. As her family and community mourn her passing, I believe it is appropriate to recognize the life of this exceptional woman before this body of Congress and this nation.

In 1946 Connie married Robert Delaney and moved to Glenwood Springs and became an active member of her community. She dedicated most of her efforts to Valley View Hospital, accumulating over 8,000 hours of volunteer service. She was the hospital's auxiliary president in 1968, and again in 1983. Serving as the auxiliary's historian, she attended all of the hospital's functions, taking pictures at every event. She then spent many hours putting together scrapbooks that serve as a wonderful history of the hospital. She was always willing to help out in any way she could, with open arms and a beautiful smile.

In recognition of Connie and her husband Robert's extensive community involvement, the Colorado Mountain College honored them during the College's prestigious Calaway Honor Series reception. Above all of her achievements, Connie was most devoted to Robert, sons Rob and Ralph, and daughter Diane.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise before this body of Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and memory of Connie Delaney. I am proud to have known such a great woman who enriched the lives of her family and community. My heart goes out to her family, friends, and Glenwood Springs community during this difficult time of bereavement. Connie, we will miss you.

HONORING LOIS HALE

HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lois Hale. Lois Hale has dedicated her life to education and the community of Ballico has benefited greatly from her efforts.

Signum scientis est posse docere. The touchstone of knowledge is the ability to teach.

Ms. Lois Hale has this special ability and has selflessly utilized it to the benefit of her community for nearly 40 years. In addition to successfully teaching thousands of our children essential math skills so they may have a solid foundation for future success, Lois Hale has dutifully served as a leader and role model for both students and fellow faculty members.

Ms. Hale has served as President of California's Central Valley Math Council. She has, for many years, offered herself as a mentor to her

students. She has also taken upon herself responsibility for organizing and directing student activities such as the annual Math Superbowl and the biennial Washington DC trip.

She has received the recognition of her peers for her accomplishments. She has been honored with such recognitions as being a California Presidential Award Finalist, twice being listed in the Who's Who Among America's Teachers, and receiving the George Polya Award for Outstanding Teaching.

Perhaps more important and telling than her individual awards and recognitions is the success and accomplishments of those she has taught. This year alone, her Math Superbowl team brought back 28 trophies and countless other recognitions. This is notable, given the fact that her school district has little more than 300 current students.

Ms. Hale has proven her depth of knowledge and character over the past 40 years, and has embodied the idea that Signum scientis est posse docere.

We are honored to have people like Ms. Hale aiding in the development and progress of our children and our community. I would like the House to join me in thanking Ms. Hale for her many years of dedicated and honorable service and to wish her the best in her retirement.

CONGRATULATING MARK A.
ANGELSON

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mark A. Angelson for joining RR Donnelley & Sons Company and on being selected as its Chief Executive Officer and as a member of its Board of Directors.

RR Donnelley has a rich and storied history. Founded over 140 years ago in Chicago, the firm has grown to become the largest commercial printer in North America, with 50,000 employees serving clients across the globe. Aside from its unparalleled business achievements, RR Donnelley has established a reputation as a model of good corporate citizenship in the Chicagoland area and around the world.

Through the active participation of its employees in youth education projects, and through the RR Donnelly Foundation and its Corporate Giving Program, RR Donnelley has enhanced the lives of thousands of children and has made lasting contributions to the vibrancy of our communities. I applaud RR Donnelley for serving as a shining example of leadership and commitment to civic responsibility in our city.

Mr. Angelson's distinguished background as an attorney, financier and leading corporate executive will serve him well at the helm of RR Donnelley. Prior to his election as CEO of RR Donnelley on February 27, 2004, Mr. Angelson served as CEO of leading printing firm Moore Wallace Inc. He was instrumental in spearheading the merger between Moore Wallace and RR Donnelley earlier this year. Before joining Moore Wallace, Mr. Angelson practiced law for twenty-one years, including fourteen years with Sidley Austin Brown & Wood, served as a senior executive with Big

Flower Press Holdings, and was Deputy Chairman of Chancery Lane Capital, a New York-based private equity firm.

Before launching his impressive career, the Caldwell, New Jersey native graduated from Rutgers University, where he received Phi Beta Kappa honors, and from Rutgers Law School. Mr. Angelson and his wife are the proud parents of three daughters.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the people of the Fifth Congressional District of Illinois and indeed all of Chicago, I am privileged to congratulate Mark A. Angelson for his achievements and to welcome him to Chicago.

HONORING TUSKEGEE AIRMEN
AND THEIR CONTRIBUTION IN
CREATING AN INTEGRATED
UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

SPEECH OF

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 1, 2004

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 417 and in recognition and gratitude for the lifetime of service provided to his country by Central Coast resident and Tuskegee Airman, Mr. Art Hicks.

The Tuskegee Airmen were a group of brave Americans who volunteered to become this country's first African-American military pilots. These courageous men flew airplanes for their country in the war against fascism, while enduring and waging their own struggle against racism and segregation here at home. Despite the predictions of many defenders of segregation that the Tuskegee Airmen would end in failure, they developed a record of unparalleled skill and courage.

One hundred fifty brave Tuskegee Airmen were lost during training or combat, but they destroyed more than 1,000 German aircraft. Unbelievably, despite flying over 200 bomber escort missions during the war, they never lost a single bomber under their escort.

No one exemplified the honor and service of the Tuskegee Airmen more than Art Hicks. He was born in Georgia in 1922 and grew up under the dark cloud of segregation and its daily dangers, indignities, and humiliations. During World War II, he volunteered to become a Tuskegee Airman.

He eventually served 28 years in the military, retiring in 1971. But after the War, he continued to encounter the racism that also greeted so many of his fellow comrades.

In 1989, nearly single-handedly, he fought and won a battle to remove a barrier to integration at the Elks Lodge and eliminate a stain from this venerable and honorable institution. Doubtless fueled by the same courage and commitment to fight wrong that had propelled him to sign up to be a Tuskegee Airman some four decades earlier, Mr. Hicks fought to eliminate the rule that allowed any three members of the Elks Lodge to block admission of potential members. In many cases, this rule helped to continue a pattern of exclusion based on race or religion. Mr. Hicks began a local letter-writing campaign, was eventually joined by the NAACP, and saw the rule abolished at the Elks national convention later that year.

Mr. Speaker, the Tuskegee Airmen exhibited bravery, skill and sacrifice for their country, while often facing mistreatment from the

society they were defending. They showed the best of America, and we are all so proud of their accomplishments. I am privileged to count one of them among my neighbors on the Central Coast of California.

TRIBUTE TO DR. DAVID BENSON,
SUPERINTENDENT OF THE BLUE
VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT IN
JOHNSON COUNTY, KS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor today to recognize Dr. David Benson, who is retiring this month as superintendent of the Blue Valley School District in the Third Congressional District of Kansas. Since 1993, Dr. Benson has led this outstanding school district, which has experienced exponential growth in facilities and in students. All the while, the district has continued to score exceptionally on all standardized tests and by any other measure of school excellence is one of our nation's outstanding school districts. I am lucky to represent in Congress some of the best schools in the United States, and many, many of them are in the Blue Valley District.

During his time at Blue Valley, the district has grown by 8,000 students. This phenomenal growth required two successful bond campaigns, led by Dr. Benson, and the construction of two new high schools, four middle schools, and six elementary schools. A seventh elementary school will open next fall. During Dr. Benson's tenure, the average growth in Blue Valley enrollment was larger than the total enrollment of most Kansas school districts!

During his years at Blue Valley, the district developed new programs, including foreign language programs for all elementary schools, a broadcast technology program, a new Wilderness Science Center (with wetlands and prairie environments), an alternative high school program, and a program to teach independent living skills to students 18 to 21 with moderate to severe disabilities.

In 2001, Dr. Benson was named Kansas Superintendent of the Year by the Kansas Association of School Administrators. In 2000, he was selected as Communicator of the Year by the Kansas School Public Relations Association. His leadership extends beyond the education community. Recognizing the importance of the business community's support for public education, Dr. Benson has served as a board member for the Greater Kansas City and Overland Park Chambers of Commerce, and also served as president of United Community Services in 1999 and 2000.

Dr. Benson began his career teaching high school in Joplin, Missouri. He has served in various capacities in Salina, Moundridge, Junction City, and Kingman, Kansas, school districts; and also served as superintendent in both Fort Madison, Iowa, and Moundridge, Kansas. I know each of these districts has benefited from this outstanding public educator.

I wish Dr. Benson and his wife Donni the very best in their new community. While Dr. Benson will be missed by all students, teach-

ers, staff, and patrons of Blue Valley, the district will continue under the excellent leadership of Dr. Tom Trigg, currently the Deputy Superintendent of Administrative Services for Blue Valley.

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an amazing generation of Americans, a generation that possessed both the courage and the strength to defend the United States against its fiercest enemies.

I refer, of course, to those who served our great nation during World War II, the brave Americans who stormed the beaches of Europe and who fought to defend our territories in the South Pacific.

Just this weekend, Mr. Speaker, we gave our World War II veterans the commemoration they earned and deserve with the dedication of a new memorial on the National Mall.

Visiting this new monument in person made me think about all of the great sacrifices this generation made on our behalf.

Mr. Speaker, I can only imagine the enormous pressure they faced. The Japanese had already sunk some of our greatest battleships and were gaining ground in the Pacific and across Asia.

German and Italian forces were marching across Western Europe and were gaining ground against our allies.

With the goal of world dominance, the freedoms and liberties of the United States were in jeopardy like never before.

We would have to defeat some of the most powerful military forces in history if we were to keep our independence intact and to prevent a new era of tyranny around the world.

Despite this intense pressure and the great dangers before them, our young men signed up by the thousands and were willing to take on any task no matter what the risk.

They would fight in heroic battles and many of them would never return home or would spend a lifetime with severe injuries.

Working closely with my veterans in San Diego, I have heard firsthand accounts of the heroics on the battlefield and what our young men had to endure to win the war, including one who survived the attack on Pearl Harbor, another who fought in the famous Battle for Midway, and one who was held as a prisoner of war by the Japanese for several years.

We achieved victory only because these service members were willing to fight and willing to do whatever it took to win. We must also not forget the others who were crucial to our great victory.

Women were not eligible for full military status at the time, but this did not prevent them from making vast contributions. Women worked as laborers, engineers, and managers to produce the equipment our soldiers relied upon in the battlefield.

Women also put themselves directly in harm's way by working as medical personnel in battle zones.

Women performed so well and were so crucial to our victory, the War Department would

soon establish women's corps in the different branches leading to full military status for them.

We also broke stiff racial barriers during World War II. The Tuskegee Airmen, a squad of African-American pilots, were among the most elite who flew during the war and are credited with contributing to the desegregation of the Air Force.

We must also remember those from other nations who took up arms for the United States—specifically the Filipino veterans who fought alongside American soldiers in the Pacific.

As we dedicate the World War II Monument on our National Mall and celebrate the 60th Anniversary of D-Day, I hope we will remember the commitment by all of those who were crucial to our victory. Please join me in paying tribute to those who would become known as the "Greatest Generation."

FALLEN HEROES

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES W. STENHOLM

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 20, 2004

Mr. STENHOLM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our military troops fighting for liberty in Iraq and Afghanistan. As we celebrated Memorial Day this past weekend, it is fitting to remember not only those heroes who have passed on, but also those who promote freedom around the world today.

I also want to take this opportunity to remember the fine young men of the 17th District of Texas who made the ultimate sacrifice for us all in Iraq and Afghanistan. They made the ultimate sacrifice in defense of freedom and liberty, and I extend my condolences to their families and loved ones. Today I honor:

Lt. Nathan White of Abilene, Texas;
Chief Warrant Officer Scott Jamar of Granbury, Texas;
Sgt. Roy Wood of Graham, Texas;
Lt. Doyle Hufstедler of Abilene, Texas;
Lance Corporal Elias Torres of Grape Creek, Texas;
Staff Sergeant Rene Ledesma of Abilene, Texas.

These men are patriots, and I salute them and thank them and their families for their priceless sacrifice.

This Memorial Day, we were especially aware of the sacrifices made by the Greatest Generation, those men and women who fought and won the most important war in our history. Last weekend, we opened a memorial to these brave men and women in a prominent location on the National Mall in Washington, D.C., in a grand setting that befits the strong and indomitable nature of these true heroes.

The veterans of World War II earned their greatness through their blood and sacrifice for a global conflict that destroyed the ambitions of tyrannical regimes. Our soldiers' dedication to country, to freedom, and to duty persevered over frightening threats to our society and way of life.

The Greatest Generation fought against these threats with the best qualities that America had to offer—courage, strength, determination, resourcefulness, fearlessness, and independence. They fought against those who